

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAA-03 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
SSO-00 INRE-00 /068 W
-----007704 030610Z /20

O 030116Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO USICA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1256
WHITE HOUSE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY AMMAN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 JERUSALEM 1818

USICA

USICA FOR PGM/GF, PGM/PPN, VOA/PN

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S SPEECH AT STATE DINNER AT THE
KNESSET - JULY 2, 1978

1. MR. VICE PRESIDENT, MRS. MONDALE, MR. SPEAKER, MR. SHAMIR,
YOUR EXCELLENCIES, THE AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES TO ISRAEL
AND MRS. LEWIS, THE AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED STATES AND
MRS. DINITZ, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, MEMBERS OF THE KNESSET, HONORED
GUESTS, COLLEAGUES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

2. TWO HUNDRED AND TWO YEARS AGO A TURNING POINT IN THE ANNALS OF
MANKIND TOOK PLACE: THIRTEEN COLONIES BECAME THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA. SINCE THEN MILLIONS OF PEOPLE FLOCKED TO THAT COUNTRY
TO FIND A HAVEN, TO BUILD A HOME--WITH A VISION OF A REPUBLIC BASED
ON JUSTICE, CONCEIVED IN LIBERTY. SINCE THEN AMERICA SAVED THREE
TIMES IN FIFTY YEARS ALL NATIONS, ALL MANKIND, FROM DANGER OF
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SLAVERY, FROM A MENACE OF TYRANNY.

3. THIRTY YEARS AGO THE INDEPENDENCE OF ISRAEL WAS RENEWED AFTER
19 CENTURIES OF A FATE WHICH TONIGHT I WILL NOT DESCRIBE BECAUSE
IT IS INDESCRIBABLE. SINCE THEN WE BUILT UP OUR COUNTRY, TILLED ITS
LAND. WE MADE IT GREEN AND PRODUCTIVE--AND IN OUR CASE, TOO,
WITH ALL THE DIFFERENCES IN THE NUMBERS. MILLIONS OF PEOPLE

FLOCKED FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, FROM SCORES OF COUNTRIES, TO FIND THE HAVEN, TO BUILD A HOME AND CREATE A NATION.

4. DESPITE THE INACCURACIES AND DIFFERENCES IN THE CALENDAR, WE ARE GATHERED TONIGHT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, TO CELEBRATE THESE TWO GREAT EVENTS IN HISTORY. BUT TONIGHT WE WILL NOT ONLY CELEBRATE--WE ARE HERE ALSO TO MAKE A POLITICAL ANALYSIS. WE ARE NOT ONLY HERE TO SPEAK ABOUT THE PAST AND THE ACIVEMENTS SINCE WE REACHED THE STAGE OF INDEPENDENCE AND DEVELOPED OUR COURTRIES TO THE PRIDE OF FREE MANKIND, BUT TO PAY OUR ATTENTION TO THE FUTURE.

5. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MAY I TRY IN SIMPLE WORDS TO DESCRIBE WHAT WE BELIEVE WITH ALL OUR HEARTS: THE JUSTICE OF OUR CASE. THAT WONDERFUL MOVEMENT FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION WHICH IS CALLED ZIONISM, WHICH CAME FROM THE HEARTS OF A DISPERSED AND HUMILIATED PEOPLE, FROM THE DEPTHS OF DESPERATION, FROM THE DISPERSED GHETTOES. ZIONISM HAS BEEN BASED SINCE ITS INCEPTION BY ITS FOUNDING FATHERS ON THE PRECEPT OF ACHIEVING JUSTICE. TO DO JUSTICE TO THE PEOPLE WHO WERE WRONGED FOR CENTURIES, AND TO BE JUST TO ALL. TO RESPECT HUMAN DIGNITY OF EVERY MAN AND WOMAN AND TO ASSURE HUMAN DIGNITY TO DJTUECS AND THE JEWS.

6. THE JUSTICE OF OUR CASE: WE WANT PEACE. WE WANT TO LIVE WITH OUR NEIGHBORS IN HUMAN DIGNITY. WE HATE WAR, WE HATE UNCLASSIFIED

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BLOODSHED. WE SUFFERED SO MUCH. WE LOST SO MUCH--BOTH THERE AND HERE, WE ARE A BEREAVED AND ORPHANED GENERATION. WITH ALL OUR HEARTS WE WANT PEACE.

7. WE RESPECT OUR NEIGHBORS. WE DONT'T FEEL ANY HAUGHTINESS IN RESPECT TO THEM. WE WANT TO LIVE WITH THEM TOGETHER IN HUMAN DIGNITY AND EQUALITY, PROGRESS, AND OF COURSE PEACE. ON THIS BASIS WE ELABORATED AND PRODUCED A PEACE PLAN. OBJECTIVELY, WE DON'T HAVE ANY QUARREL WITH EGYPT. THE DESERT SHOULD NOT ONLY DIVIDE US--AS IT CAN--ASSURING PEACE TO BOTH NATIONS: IT CAN EVEN BE USED FOR COOPERATION.

8. THE TRAGEDY STARTED WHEN THE ORDER WAS GIVEN THIRTY YEARS AGO, AT THE PROCLMATION OF OUR RENEWED INDEPENDENCE, FOR THE EGYPTIAN SOLDIERS TO MARCH INTO PALESTINE, TO INVAD E THE COUNTRY, TO TRY TO STRANGLE OUR INDEPENDENCE THE DAY IT WAS DECLARED. BUT THERE IS NO REASON FOR A QUARREL. THERE IS NO REASON FOR A CONFLICT BETWEEN US AND EGYPT. AND IF HAUGHTY WORDS ARE NOT USED, AND IF INSTEAD OF PRIDE WE SHALL ALL SPEAK OF DIGNITY, THEN WE CAN FIND ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS NECESSARY--YES, INDEED, ON THE BASIS OF OUR PEACE PLAN: TO MAKE PEACE, TO MAKE IT SURE FOR US AND OUR CHILDREN'S CHILDREN. WITH DEMILITARIZATION,

WITH INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION ASSURED FOR EVERYBODY, WITH
PART OF NORTHERN SINAI, WITH OUR PEOPLE LIVING THERE IN
PEACE WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS. THIS IS THE PART WHICH WE
DEVELOPED OF OUR PEACE PLAN WITH EGYPT.

9. WITH OUR NEIGHBORS IN THIS COUNTRY WE HAVE A CONFLICT OF MORE
THAN 60 YEARS--SUPERFLUOUS, UNNECESSARY. OUR FOREFATHERS CAME
TO THIS COUNTRY TO BUILD IT UP AGAIN. IT WAS INDEED MAINLY
A DESERT: NOW YOU CAN SEE IT IS GREEN. IT IS REBUILT. BUT
SINCE THEN THE CONFLICT WAS IN EXISTENCE. BLOOD WAS SHED. LIVES
WERE TAKEN AWAY UNTIL THIS VERY DAY.

10. WE WANT TO PUT AN END TO THIS CONFLICT ONCE AND FOR ALL.
TO LIVE TOGETHER. WE DON'T WANT TO INTERFERE WITH THEIR DAILY
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LIVES. WE SUGGEST THAT THEY HAVE SELF-RULE. AND THEY ELECT
THEMSELVES THE BODY WHICH WILL DEAL WITH THEIR DAILY LIVES.
YES, INDEED, WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THERE WILL BE SECURITY FOR
OUR PEOPLE. OUR PREOCCUPATION, OUR WORRY IS SECURITY. IT IS
NO EXCUSE FOR ANYTHING NO CLOAK OF ANYTHING: THIS IS THE JUSTICE
OF OUR CAUSE. WHEN I SAY WITH ALL MY HEART: TO US NATIONAL
SECURITY MEANS TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR CIVILIAN POPULATION--MEN,
WOMEN AND CHILDREN--BE NOT HARMED.

11. THE IMPLACABLE ENEMY WHOM WE FACE DOES KNOW HOW TO DISTINGUISH
BETWEEN SOLDIER AND CIVILIAN. HUMANITY FOR CENTURIES TRIED TO
HUMANIZE WAR--IF AT ALL THESE TWO WORDS CAN GO TOGETHER, BUT STILL
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN ARMED MAN AND UNARMED CIVILIAN--AND
THEY DO MAKE THE DISTINCTION. THEY DO NOT ATTACK A MILITARY POST
OR OUTPOST. THEY ALWAYS ATTACK CIVILIANS: MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN--
AS THE VICE PRESIDENT SAW FOR HIMSELF.

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAA-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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INRE-00 /054 W

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO USICA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1257
WHITE HOUSE
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12. THESE ARE THE REMNANTS OF OUR PEOPLE. WE LOST A THIRD, HERE ARE MORE THAN THREE MILLION. THESE ARE THE REMNANTS OF THOSE WHO WERE MASACRED. THIS IS THE LOST GENERATION. AND WE WANT OUR CIVILIANS TO LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES. AND THEIR CHILDREN'S CHILDREN TO LIVE IN SECURITY. AS EVERY NATION DOES. I ADMIT, FROM AFAR, SPECIALLY FROM LARGE COUNTRIES, IT IS SOMETIMES DIFFICULT TO GRASP THE PECULIARITY OF OUR SECURITY PROBLEM. A SMALL COUNTRY-- YES, AS WE SAY, A SMALL COUNTRY, NEVER A DULL MOMENT. A SMALL COUNTRY, THE SO-CALLED GREEN LINE WAS ONLY NINE MILES FROM THE SEASHORE. PLEASE IMAGINE IN YOUR COUNTRY--OR IN ANY OTHER--IN EUROPE, OR IN LATIN AMERICA--NINE MILES; WHAT DOES THAT MEAN. AND THEN EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD WERE UNDER THE RANGE OF THE FIRE OF A POTENTIAL ENEMY. SUCH WAS THE SITUATION.

13. AND BECAUSE OF THIS FIVE WARS BROKE OUT--ALL OF THEM UNNECESSARY. ALL OF THEM COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED. ALL THE TRAGEDIES COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED. BUT BECAUSE OF THIS THOSE WARS OCCURRED.
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CASUALTIES WERE INCURRED. SO MUCH TEARS WERE SHED AND SO MUCH SADNESS IS STILL IN OUR HEARTS.

14. THEREFORE OURS IS THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTION: LET OUR NEIGHBORS HAVE FULL AUTONOMY AND LET US HAVE SECURITY.

15. THIS IS THE JUSTICE OF OUR CAUSE.

16. WE ELABORATED OUR PEACE PLAN--YES, IT WAS PRAISED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. BY MANY OTHER LEADERS, AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEACE MAKING PROCESS. AS A NOTABLE CONTRIBUTION.

17. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS SO AND WE STARTED TO NEGOTIATE OUR PEACE PLAN. BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE A CASE IN HISTORY IN WHICH WITHOUT NEGOTIATIONS YOU ACHIEVED ANYTHING BETWEEN TWO QUARRELING PARTIES. NOT ALWAYS DO YOU ACHIEVE BY NEGOTIATIONS EVERYTHING

YOU WISH--BUT ANYTHING ACHIEVED, AS HISTORY TEACHES US, IS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. SO THE NEGOTIATIONS STARTED-- AND THEN ABRUPTLY THEY WERE DISRUPTED UNTIL THIS VERY DAY.

18. FOR ALL THOSE MONTHS PAST WE ASKED TO RENEW THE NEGOTIATIONS, TO RESUME THEM. CAN THERE BE A MORE LOGICAL DEMAND OR SUGGESTION THAN THIS? MAY I TELL YOU TONIGHT AS WELL THAT WE DID NEGOTIATE-- THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS--THE ATMOSPHERE WAS, IF NOT TO EXAGGERATE, POSITIVE AND GOOD, I COULD USE HIGHER WORDS. I DON'T WANT TO. WE KNEW THAT WE HAVE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. BUT AS PRESIDENT SADAT AND I SAID NM SEACH ODBOI NHMAIRST UNCONDITIONALLY:

"NO MORE WAR, NO MORE BLOODSHED," SECONDLY, AGAIN UNCONDITIONALLY: "WE SHALL NEGOTIATE." AND WHEN I SAW HIM OFF AT BEN-GURION AIR-PORT TO CAIRO. I TOLD HIM, "MR. PRESIDENT, WE SHALL MAKE PEACE"-- AND HIS REPLY WAS: "I AM SURE OF IT. I AM SURE OF IT."
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18. SUCH WAS THE SPIRIT OF ISMAILIYA. THE DAY PRESIDENT SADAT CALLED THE HAPPIEST DAY IN HIS LIFE. NOT ONLY BECAUSE IT WAS HIS BIRTHDAY. BUT ALSO, AND MAINLY, BECAUSE HE SAID "IF IS A VERY SUCCESSFUL MEETING HERE, AND WE SHALL NEGOTIATE," WE ALREADY MADE CLEAR SOME OF THE DIFFERENCE OF OPINION BETWEEN US, AND SOME AGREEMENTS. SOME GOOD WORDS WERE UTTERED ABOUT OUR PLAN--IN ISMAILYA AS WELL. WE DIDN'T FORGET THEM: THEY SHOULDN'T BE DELETED FROM THE MEMORY OF ANYBODY. WE HAD DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. YET THE SUMMING UP WAS: WE SHALL NEGOTIATE.

19. NOW, LADIES AND GENTELMEN, THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE RESUMED. MR. VICE-PRESIDENT, PERHAPS TOMORROW OR THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW YOU WILL GET FROM THE PRESIDENT OF EGYPT AN EGYPTIAN PEACE PLAN OR PEACE PROPOSAL. WE WILL BE GALD TO LOOK INTO IT, TO STUDY IT, TO ANALYZE IT, AND IN TIME, TO REACT TO IT. WE DON'T REJECT ANYTHING A PRIORI. WE WANT TO SEE THE DOCUMENT AND LOOK INTO ITS DETAILS, AND THEN OF COURSE WE SHALL GIVE OUR RESPONSE.

20. IF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET, AS THEY SAY, IN THE NEXT FORTNIGHT OR SO, PERHAPS THIS WILL BE THE START OF THE RESUMED NEGOTIAIONS. PERHAPS OUR DEFENSE MINISTERS WILL MEET AGAIN. AND THIS WILL BE ALSO THE RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

21. SO NOW, PERHAPS, AFTER THE DAYS OF EUPHORIA, GREAT REJOICING IN OUR COUNTRY AND IN EGYPT AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD THAT PRESIDENT SADAT AND I MET IN JERUSALEM--HIS COLLEAGUES AND MY FRIENDS MET AND EXCHANGED VIEWS, AND IN ISMAILIYA, AND WE PROMISED EACH OTHER NOT TO WAGE ANY MORE WAR AND TO MAKE PEACE AND TO NEGOTIATE TERMS OF PEACE. AND AFTER THE DAYS OF THE DISRUPTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS-- THIS IS NOW A PROPITIOUS TIME. WITH THE HELP OF THE UNITED STATES,

WITH YOUR ASSISTANCE, MR. VICE-PRESIDENT, AND OF YOUR FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES, THE GOOD TIME WILL COME OF THE RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. AND WITH ALL THE EXPERIENCE WE HAVE, WITH ALL THE LOVE WE HAVE FOR OUR PEOPLES AND ALL THE REJECTION OF WAR AND

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BLOODSHED WE FEEL IN OUR HEARTS--THE DAY WILL COME WHEN WE SHALL CELEBRATE THE ERA OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THE CRADLE OF CIVILIZATION.

22. AND IF PEACE COMES TO THE REGION, HOW GREEN BE ALL THE VALLEYS ON BOTH SIDES. HOW BEAUTIFUL CAN BE THE LIVES OF ALL THE CHILDREN. HOW HAPPY SHALL WE ALL BE ABLE TO SEE ALWAYS SMILING FACES OF OUR CHILDREN. HOW GREAT WILL BE THE ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT FOR ALL THE PEOPLES. HOW POVERTY WILL BE LIQUIDATED. HOW MARVELLOUS WILL BE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RESOURCES.

23. THIS IS THE VISION WE HAVE, AND IN THIS SPIRIT, OUR DEAR GUEST, IN THIS SPIRIT AND IN THIS FATE, AS WE BELIVE, THAT SUCH A TIME MAY COME VERY SOON--I WANT TO RAISE MY GLASS FIRST. TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE LEADER AND THE DEFENDER OF THE FREE WOLD, OF WHICH ISRAEL IS AN INTEGRAL PART. TO THE PROSPERITY AND HAPPINESS OF THE GREAT COUNTRY: AMERICA. LE'CAHYIM.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JERUSA01818
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780273-0896
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197807100/aaaadgog.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4f41c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1847468
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S SPEECH AT STATE DINNER AT THE KNESSET - JULY 2, 1978
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, IS, (MONDALE, WALTER F), (BEGIN, MENACHEM)
To: ICA STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4f41c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014